Solid Waste Master Plan Revisions Preliminary DEP Proposal

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

February 15, 2005

Background – 2002 Generation

13.2 million tons

- 5 million tons Commercial
- 3.3 million tons Residential
- 4.9 million tons Construction & demolition

Background – 2002 Diversion

6. 8 million tons (51% of generation)

- 1.8 million tons Commercial recycling & composting
- 0.8 million tons Residential recycling & composting
- 3.6 million tons C&D recycling
- 0.6 million tons C&D other diversion
  - (fuel and landfill dependent uses)

Background – 2002 Disposal

6.5 million tons (49% of generation)

- 3.1 million tons combustion facilities (in-state)
- 1.8 million tons landfills (in-state)
- 1.6 million tons net export
- Top Export States: NY, SC, NH, ME, OH

Background
2002 Diversion Rates

- 55% waste reduction - down from 57% in 2001, but up from 51% in 1999
- 47% Total recycling – up from 46% in 2001
- 75% C&D recycling - up from 69% in 2001
- 31% MSW recycling – down from 34% in 2001

Preliminary 2003 Data
(subject to change)

- Generation flat
- Disposal & net export down slightly
- Recycling tonnage & rates up
  - Preliminary overall up from 47% to 48%
  - Preliminary MSW up from 31% to 34%

Resource Cuts

- Grant funding down more than 80 percent from FY02 to FY05
- Solid waste program staffing down 25 percent from FY02 to FY05
- Local government budgets also constrained

Program Cuts

- Municipal Recycling Incentive Program Cut
- Equipment & education grants greatly reduced
- Permanent HHP Centers no longer a focus
- Chelsea Center for Recycling and Economic Development stopped operations
- Multi-family recycling legislation not passed

Solid Waste Outlook

- In-state landfill capacity will decrease
- Net export could reach nearly 3 million tons by 2012
- Limited in-state management alternatives may reduce competition
- Disposal markets/flows could change dramatically with increased rail transfer

Solid Waste Outlook - Opportunities

- Source reduction, recycling, and composting are cost-effective alternatives for businesses & municipalities
- Specific business opportunities:
  – Business paper and cardboard recycling
  – Business food waste composting
  – C&D wood and wallboard

Solid Waste Outlook - Opportunities

- Specific municipal opportunities
  - Increase participation in existing programs (PAYT)
  - Improving contracting

Preliminary SMWP Revisions

- For discussion today
- Draft revisions for March SWAC meeting
- Public comment and hearings in April/May
- Revised plan by July

No Net Import/Export

- Given projections and lack of capacity coming on line in recent years:
  - Shift from formal policy with target date to a more general goal

Addressing In-State Capacity Need

- Given benefits of waste reduction, DEP will focus on supporting additional waste reduction capacity
- Provide resources & information to support local BOHs
- Work with industry to improve operations at existing facilities and enforce against poorly operated facilities
- Develop capacity analysis for C&D residuals, soils and similar materials

Disposal Capacity Policies

- Review landfill projects based only on site assignment and permitting requirements
- Maintain combustion facility moratorium due to concerns about mercury loading to the environment
  - Combustion facilities largest in-state source of mercury emissions
  - Consistent with EOEA Zero Mercury Strategy and New England Governors/Eastern Canadian Premiers Mercury Strategy

Waste Reduction Goal/Strategies

- Maintain 70 percent waste reduction goal
- Develop parallel recycling goal
- Shift strategies

Waste Reduction Themes

- **Prioritize Efforts** - waste streams with greatest additional diversion potential/benefits
  - **Residential:** Organics (leaves, yard waste and food waste) and paper (incl. Cardboard)
  - **Commercial:** Organics (esp. food waste) and paper and cardboard
  - **C&D:** Wood and Gypsum Wallboard
  - **Hazardous Household Products:** Mercury products and pesticides

Waste Reduction Themes

- **Leverage Resources/Build Partnerships**
  - formal & informal product stewardship agreements
  - matching grant contributions
  - additional funding sources
  - connect with other state planning
- **Target Compliance and Enforcement**
  - Explore waste ban enforcement and outreach to haulers and generators
  - adopt self-certification approach for small transfer stations.

Waste Reduction Themes

- **Build Cost-Effective Programs**
- Emphasize waste reduction initiatives that save money
  - Pay-As-You-Throw
  - improved recycling and solid waste contracting
  - regional program coordination

Pay-As-You-Throw

- Increasing the number of residents served by PAYT programs is top priority
- Potentially tie PAYT to the Commonwealth Capital program as a program criterion
- Continue to prioritize PAYT assistance and incentives

Waste Ban Enforcement

- Exploring waste ban enforcement for haulers and generators
- Best DEP tool to increase commercial recycling and a good fit economically
- Developing proposed implementation strategy

Product Stewardship

- Voluntary initiatives (e.g., carpet, paint, gypsum wallboard)
- Partnering with other state agency product design efforts (OTA/TURI)
- Continue to explore statutory and regulatory approaches

Link to Other State Policies

- Smart Growth/Sustainable Principles
- Climate Protection
- State Sustainability
- Mercury Action Plan